

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

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TELEPHONE H. P. 567-568

MICHAEL MEEHAN WAS FIRST WHITE SETTLER

CAME TO DEERFIELD IN 1835

Settled first in Michigan, later moving to Deerfield; sold farm to Jas. O'Connor

From the Portrait and Biographical Album of Lake County, of 1886: "Michael Meehan has the honor of being the first white settler to locate in the town of Deerfield, making his home on the same tract of land that he claimed in November 1835. Many are his friends and acquaintances throughout this region and we know that this sketch of his life will be received with interest.

Mr. Meehan was a native of the Emerald Isle. He was born in County Meath, in June, 1808, and his parents, Michael and Catherine Meehan were also natives of Ireland. He grew to manhood in that country, and when twenty-two years of age married Miss Bridget Monahan, daughter of Patrick Monahan, and a native of the same county in which her husband was born. In 1832 they emigrated from Ireland to America and located at Salina, N. Y., where they remained a year and a half. They then removed to Michigan territory and settled on a farm near Detroit, but in the Autumn of 1835, with his family, Mr. Meehan started for Illinois, traveling in a prairie schooner drawn by oxen. They were disgusted with the quarrelsome nature of the soil about Chicago, and hastened on to what is now Lake county, but which then formed a part of Cook county."

In this connection a history of Chicago written in 1860 states:

Chicago prior to 1830 was literally a bed of wild onions, sedges and grass.

That year the town was laid out in lots at prices ranging from ten to sixty dollars each.

In 1833 Chicago had 50 inhabitants. The pure invigorating breezes sweeping over the broad bosom of our magnificent lake for hundreds of miles, are a never failing source of energy and health to those who make homes in Chicago, was an early real estate advertising inducement, as true today as then.

The Meehans found this region in possession of the original proprietors the native Indians, who had just sold their lands, but had not yet removed to their new home. The removal of the Indians occurred the following year, 1836, but still many lingered and others returned at intervals to their old hunting grounds.

Mr. Meehan erected a log cabin and began improving his land. He was more fortunate than many that followed, as he was possessed of some means and had laid in a good stock of provisions, including several barrels of Michigan flour, and a barrel of both beef and pork, a hundred pounds of coffee, with tea, sugar and other necessary supplies. The following spring he went to a point near Bridgeport where he bought seed oats, potatoes, etc. He had to pay one dollar per bushel for oats and the same price for potatoes.

While there he purchased a pair of kittens for a dollar, and a pig that he could put in his coat pocket, for which he paid ten dollars. Thus he brought the first pig and the first cats into the town of Deerfield, as he had previously bought the first cattle. He made the first clearing and plowed the first furrow ever turned by a white man in that town.

The land was not yet surveyed, but when it came into the market he found his claim to be on section 18 of Deerfield Township. His first white neighbors were Lawrence and William Dorsey, and a French Canadian named Tippee. They came in the winter of 1835-36 and made their home with Mr. Meehan until they built their cabins on their claims in the neighborhood. That they were welcomed may well be believed as a home in such a wilderness and among the Indians was likely to prove lonely. The following year Michael Davin, John Christie, James Fagan and some others effected settlements near by. Mr. Meehan entered two hundred and twenty-five acres of land and pursued farming uninterruptedly until 1876, except for a trip that he made to California in 1852. In company with some neighbors he crossed the plains with horse teams to the gold diggings of the Pacific coast. The rough style of life there was not suited to his taste and he returned to his home the following October, the return voyage being made by way of the sea and Panama route to New York.

In 1876, Mr. Meehan, feeling that he was not physically able to conduct his farm, sold it to his nephew, James O'Connor. He then bought the old lighthouse property at Port Clinton, (Highland Park) which was

DEERFIELD BOY SCOUTS HOLD DEMONSTRATION

HISTORY OF ORGANIZATION

First Members of Troop in 1914; Six Different Scoutmasters; Other Items Interesting

More than 50 scouts, each of them a leader in a local scout troop will gather at the Deerfield Presbyterian church, on Saturday morning, Feb. 18, for a Junior Leaders conference. Earnest West of Troop 32 of Highland Park is general chairman, and W. Ted Grant, field scout executive, is the adviser.

The program will include games, handicraft, story telling and several surprise events. L. F. Ball, scoutmaster of troop 3 of Wilmette, will conduct a handicraft period in which the scouts will practice in making things from Deco Art. The program includes discussion of "Organizing the Patrols," "Miles for the Patrol," "The Troop Cabinet."

Scouts from Ravinia, Highland Park, Highwood, Lake Forest, Lake Bluff, Libertyville, Deerfield, Northbrook and Glenview will attend. The program will open at 9:30, luncheon will be served at 12, and the program concluded at 1:30 p. m.

Monthly Round Table Scoutmasters and assistant scoutmasters from all of the troops of the Northshore are looking forward to the monthly scoutmaster round table which will be held on Monday evening, Feb. 29, at the Green Tea Pot in Highland Park.

W. R. Bimson, chairman of the committee on leadership and training, is arranging an attractive program which will include a discussion lead by Dr. E. D. Kelly, scout executive of the Evanston council.

The scoutmasters' round table, dinner and discussion is a regular monthly feature held on the third Monday of each month.

Inspection Tour A group of scout committeemen, headed by Chas. A. Steele, left on Friday, Feb. 17, for a three day trip into Wisconsin, inspecting various camp sites.

Talk O' the Troops Troop 33 of the Lincoln school is going ahead at a rapid pace already preparing for the big court of honor next month according to a report from Scribe Carl Hunckle. About 32 scouts were present at their meeting last Friday, and committeemen Smith, Reichardt and Wichman were present. Mr. Walter Borg is scoutmaster.

Skating Party The Ravinia first aid team is practicing regularly looking ahead to uphold the Northshore laurels in the elimination contest which comes early in March.

Deerfield troops 51 and 52 held a joint meeting last Friday, Feb. 10. Advancement honors were presented and W. Ted Grant, field executive, spoke briefly.

Troop 37 of the Oak Terrace school, Highwood, held a skating party, according to Edward Carroll, troop scribe.

DEERFIELD BOY SCOUTS Demonstration Meeting—Troop 52

Friday evening, Feb. 24, 1928. Deerfield Presbyterian church at 7:45 p. m.

I. Ceremonial—"First Call"—"Assembly"—"To the Colors" (Bugles).

Flag Ceremony. Invocation. Scout Oath.

II. Demonstration—Knot tying—Signaling—First Aid—Fire by Friction.

III. Character Development—The Scout Law. "A Scout of the Past"—Robt. Freeman.

Flag Talk—Joseph Andrews. "The Flint Arrow-head"—Milton Merner.

What is a Tenderfoot Scout?—K. Vetter.

What is a Second Class Scout?—R. Vantruen.

What is a First Class Scout?—M. Casel.

How win a church troop bar?—E. Koebelin.

"Dan Beard's Recipe for Scouting"—R. Bruner.

IV. Conclusion—Short Address by Scout Executive Walter McPeck. Offering.

"Retreat" and "Taps" (Bugles). Refreshments and Fellowship.

A Junior Leaders Conference will take place on Saturday morning at the Deerfield Presbyterian church, at 9:30 a. m.

The following is the program: 9:30—Songs and Registration. 9:45—"Big Idea" from each Scout. 10:30—Practice in Patrol Projects. Games, Handicraft, Leatherwork, Stunts, Surprise material. 11:30—Games for Patrol and Troop. 12:00—East—Songs. 12:45—Closing Session. Asst. Scout Executive, W. Ted Grant will be in charge.

Mr. Erwin Plagge the man responsible for Boy Scouting in Deerfield. He first became acquainted with the work while attending the University of Illinois.

Realizing the value of such an organization, he decided the boys of his home town should also have an opportunity to belong to this new movement.

During his vacation period in July 1914, he organized the first troop of Boy Scouts in Deerfield. According to the records, the following boys were members or applicants during the first year: George Jacobs, Clarence Huhn, Harold Plagge, Julius Bosold, Chester Schmidt, Edward Skrine, Perry Skrine, Harry Skrine, Willard Sokup, Peter Curtis, Whitney Rockenback, Earl Clapper, Raymond Goodman, Ralph Peterson, Edward Johnson, Henry Johnson, Ralph Horenberger, Vernon Gunckle, Edward Therrien, Roy Haggie, George Hall, Ewart Goldring, Florian Savage and Ethan Willman.

The first summer the boys took a camping trip to Diamond Lake where a great time was had as most of the boys had not been away from home before.

During the summer camping trips this troop has been to Diamond Lake, Lake Zurich, Long Lake, Fox River, Grass Lake, Delevan Lake, Twin Lakes, Starved Rock, Como Lake, and Shabbond river, Camp Shabbond on the river of that name is the Scout camp for De Kalb county; and is directed by our old Scoutmaster Irwin Plagge, who is now Scout executive of that district. These trips do not include the many overnight camps at the "spring," a fine camping spot on the Des Plaines River, that will long be remembered by the Deerfield scouts. One winter the boys built a brush hut there and camped in it several days in cold weather.

This tract of land formerly owned by Mr. Barrett of Wheeling, now belongs to Mr. Everett L. Millard of Highland Park.

Scoutmasters To date six men have served this troop as Scoutmasters. Mr. Plagge, the years 1914-15, when business called him to New York. On his return he again met with the troop until 1918, when Rev. Thomas Howard Dowell of the Presbyterian church, relieved him until 1919, when his charge at the church was ended. His successor in the pulpit, Rev. Martin Luther Thomas, also succeeded him as Scoutmaster for the years 1920-21. He was followed in turn by Professor, Wayne Thomas, then principal of the Deerfield Grammar School—1922.

Mr. Edward Jacobsen, formerly of England, later of the U. S. Navy, having served seven years in the service and now living in Deerfield, 1923-24 and Mr. Owen Savage of Deerfield, a former scout of the troop under Mr. Plagge, and now scouting as troop committeeman. The first committee was composed of Mr. George Rockenback, (chairman) Dr. C. Johnston Davis, and Wm. John Stryker. Not having the records for the intervening years their names must be omitted, but Mr. Burr Kress and Mr. Arthur Ender are two of the older Deerfield citizens who have been prominent committeemen.

The present committee is composed of: Rev. F. G. Pieponbrook (chairman), Jesse Strong, James Getty, Harry Olendorf, Newton Bailey, Prof. Carl Everett Bates of the (Deerfield Grammar School) John Stryker.

Mr. Stryker has been active on the committee almost continuously since the troop was started in 1914.

In 1925 Deerfield troop No. 1, became a member of the Highland Park council, with headquarters in that city. The Troop number was then changed to No. 8, as all troops in a council must be numbered successively. In 1926 the Highland Park council was re-organized into the North Shore Area council with Mr. Walter McPeck as Scout Executive. The troop number was again changed to No. 51, the present number.

Members Since 1914

The first meeting place of troop was the Town Hall on Deerfield avenue; then the school was used as a meeting place. Later they used the Presbyterian church basement; and now are meeting in the Grammar School basement under the Public Library.

The incomplete records of the troop, show the following names of boys as applicants or members since 1914: Warren Patis, Ewald Winters, Cassius Easton, John Kress, Owen Savage, Raymond Meyer, Leslie Haggie, Otto Trute, Virgil Selig, Andrew Savage, Graeme Supple, Raymond Dobbins, Kenneth Javis, Ward Reichelt, William Johnson, Oscar Schwab, William Johnson, Oscar Smith, Adolph Bennett, Alfred Schwab, Willard Goldring, Richard Easton, Eugene Becker, Willard Benson, Charlie Haggie, Elmer Haggie, Morris Hall, Arthur Johnson, Charles Johnson, William Johnson, Jack Johnston, Emil Juhrend, Lester Juhrend, Morris Reichelt, Adrain Supple, Irwin Whitcomb, Benny White, Norman Peterson, Kenneth Hagie,

REGULAR MEETING OF DEERFIELD P.T.A. HELD

Mrs. F. Burroughs Speaks on Life of Lincoln; Next Meeting to Evening Affair

A regular meeting of the Deerfield Parent Teacher Association was held in the school, on Friday afternoon, February 10. The vice president, Mrs. H. Cazel presided.

A selection by the school orchestra which is under the able direction of Miss Frances Hill opened the program. The orchestra is comprised of Catherine and Mary Hoffman, Edgely Todd, Joseph and Mark Andrew, Edward Cazel, Edmund Koebelin, Helmheth Piepenbrok, Lewis Stryker, and Arline Gastfield.

To commemorate the birthday of Abraham Lincoln, Mrs. F. Burroughs gave a fascinating and keenly interesting account of the life of Abraham Lincoln based on the Lincoln Biography by Carl Sandburg.

Vivid pictures of the struggles and sorrows of his early pioneer life, different phases of his beautiful strong character, education and political career were given.

At a business meeting, the count of the mothers was taken and prize awarded to the seventh grade room. The next meeting will be held Friday evening, March 9, in the Masonic temple and the speaker will be Miss Wilson Dean of Women of the Deerfield-Shields high school who will form the Grammar school. This should prove especially interesting to parents of the eighth grade pupils.

In Memoriam William Johnson, Ward Reichelt, and Kenneth Jarvis. William Johnson contracted a severe cold and died of brain fever in the winter of 1917. Ward Reichelt and Kenneth Jarvis were killed with Mr. Jarvis in a railroad accident at Roundout in Dec. 23, 1916. Adolph Bennett while a scout of Deerfield was recommended for bravery after saving several lives when the lake steamer, The Eastland capsized in the Chicago River. This is just another instance when a scouts training in preparedness enabled him to render unusual service in an emergency.

New Officers

Newly elected officers of the troop are: Patrol Leaders, John Cashmore, Russell Batt, Leslie Christensen, and Herbert Hertel.

James Lepac, Senior Patrol Leader; Robert Patterson, Bugler; Wessly Stryker, Junior Assistant Scoutmaster; Owen Savage, Scoutmaster.

Since the failure of the state-projected railroads, 1857-60, there has been no attempt toward state-owned public utilities in Illinois.

WILMOT P.T.A. WILL HOLD BIRTHDAY PARTY

Members of the Wilmot school P. T. A. and residents of the Wilmot school district are invited to attend a birthday celebration in connection with the regular monthly meeting of the P. T. A. on Friday evening, Feb. 17, at 8 o'clock sharp, at the school.

Short reports from the recent district 19 Conference will be given all important business too, so all come.

The P. T. A. executive held an important session at the home of Mrs. Delbert Meyer, Thursday evening. After the business dainty refreshments were served by the hostess.

The warm lunch dishes now being served by the teachers are greatly enjoyed by the pupils.

The Conference of District 19, State Council Parent-Teacher Association was held in Waukegan, Tuesday, Feb. 7.

It was well attended and proved of great interest to P. T. A. workers. Those attending from Wilmot P. T. A. included Mmes. J. D. Carter, E. L. Vinyard, E. J. Ginter, C. C. Brackett and L. Weimer.

WILL NOT EXTEND BUSINESS DISTRICT

Property owners along Waukegan road petitioned the Board of Appeal to have the business zone extended beyond Orchard street, on the north and Osterman avenue on the south. At a public hearing held Monday evening the village board decided that there would not be any change of extension of the business district.

LEGION AUXILIARY WILL SPONSOR PARTY FEB. 24

The American Legion auxiliary will sponsor a party in the Masonic temple, Friday evening, Feb. 24. Cards, dancing and refreshments will be the features. The public is invited to attend. Table reservations may be made by calling Mrs. Harry Mau.

Seven Civil war nurses are still living in Illinois. Only 46 survive of the 2,000 women who nursed the Union army.

\$1 3 Big Sale Days \$1 Thursday, Friday and Saturday, February 16, 17 and 18. Men's Half Hose, plain and fancy; values to 75c; 3 pair \$1. Dress Gingham, fast colors, neat patterns; 5 yards \$1. Creton Clothes Bags, 4 garment capacity; very special \$1. Fast Color Dress Prints, ideal for house dresses and aprons; 4 yards for \$1. Turkish Towels; values up to \$1.00, \$1.25 each; now 2 for \$1. Plain Face Towels, easy to launder; 3 for \$1. Women's Cotton Union Suits, unusual values; choice \$1. Children's Play Suits; values to \$1.95; special \$1. Men's Caps \$1. Boys' Caps \$1. Pillow Cases, 42x36 size; very special; 4 for \$1. "Sans" Sanitary Napkins 3 dozen for \$1. 2 Dozen Coats' Spool Cotton Thread \$1. SHOES—values up to \$7; Closing out sale; 2 pair \$1. Sweaters—Women's, Men's, Girls', Boys'; good values; each \$1. Curtain Material, very special 4 yards for \$1. Ladies' Silk Hose, fancy, serviceable silk; 2 pair \$1. Ladies' All-Silk to Garter Hose; semi-service weight; the pair \$1. R. H. SCHELL & CO. Deerfield and Waukegan Roads Phone Deerfield 144